Chicago Tribune, Thursday, September 7, 1972

McGovern Blames Egypt and Lebanon

AP Wirephoto

George McGovern addressing board of rabbis in California.

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LOS ANGELES, Sept. 6—Sen. George McGovern today blamed the governments of Egypt and Lebanon for the massacre of 11 Israelis at the Olympic Games in Munich and urged the Nixon administration to make any diplomatic contact with Egypt conditional upon Egypt's rooting out "these international outlaws."

The Democratic Presidential nominee made the unusually strong statement at a meeting here of the Southern California Board of Rabbis.

Mourning and Anger

"I come here on a day of mourning across the world for the young Israelis who died yesterday," McGovern said. "And I come here also in a fit of anger.

"This desecration of the Olympic peace is the latest act in a brutal wave of terrorism carried out by international gangsters for the purpose of destroying the state of Israel."

McGovern said it was the same organization that was responsible for the massacre last June at the Lod Airport in Israel and for the killing of Jordan's prime minister in Egypt in November of 1971.

"So we must place the responsibility, and we must be honest and clear," he said. "The blame lies with two Arab governments—Egypt and Lebanon and let us call the facts as they are.

Points to Egyptian Policy

"Egypt has bestowed its blessing on indiscriminate terrorism as an instrument of its own foreign policy."

He said that the four men who murdered the Jordanian prime minister belong to the same Black September group that has boasted of responsibility for the killings in Munich.

"The Egyptian state prosecutor announced that the assassination was justified," McGovern said, "and the four confessed murderers were released on bail and freed to return home. Can anyone doubt that these men have resumed their terrorist savagery."

Speaks to Machinists

Later, McGovern, who had said in a television interview that "any union member who votes for Richard Nixon ought to have his head examined," told the national convention here of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers that the nation "can't afford four more years of the Nixon economic policies."

He told the machinists, many of whose members have been made jobless by defense spending cutbacks, that if he is elected President he would have a program to substitute jobs making civilian products for jobs making defense products. The machinists endorsed his candidacy in a voice vote.

McGovern flew on to San Diego and toured the Teledyne Ryan Aerospace plant, then went on to Dallas for a rally tonight.